

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 06055 190909Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /030 W

-----105772 200301Z /64

R 190731Z OCT 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6013

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 6055

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, ET

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO GREECE

REF: ADDIS ABABA 5062 (NOTAL)

1. EMBOFF HAS LEARNED FROM ETHIOPIAN MOFA COUNSELOR ASSEFA LEGESSE THAT HE WAS NAMED AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO ATHENS. ATO ASSEFA BORN 1935 AND EDUCATED IN ETHIOPIA AND US. UPON RETURN FROM US JOINED MOFA. FROM 1964-70 HE SERVED AS FIRST SECRETARY AND LATER COUNSELOR AT ETHIOPIAN EMBASSY IN LONDON; FROM 1970-72 AS COUNSELOR IN LAGOS; 1972-74 AS COUNSELOR IN AFRICAN DEPT OF MOFA; AND 1974-MID 1975 AS ASST MINISTER IN MOFA. MOST RECENTLY HE COUNSELOR IN MOFA POLICY AND RESEARCH DEPT. HE ARRESTED FOR BRIEF PERIOD (1-2 WEEKS) FOLLOWING DISCOVERY THAT CLASSIFIED DOCUMENTS HAD BEEN STOLEN FROM HIS DEPARTMENT (JULY 1977), BUT RELEASED WHEN FOUND GUILTLESS. HE HAS ATTENDED NUMEROUS OAU CONFERENCES AS ETHIOPIAN DELEGATE AND HAS BEEN MEMBER VARIOUS PROVISIONAL MILITARY ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL (PMAC) DELEGATIONS SINCE BEGINNING OF REVOLUTION.

2. ASSEFA HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED AS EXTREMELY CAPABLE DIPLOMAT; PRAGMATIC, WELL-RESPECTED IN MOFA, PRIVATELY CRITICAL OF MILITARY REGIME (ALTHOUGH HE ENJOYS RESPECT OF MILITARY SUPERIORS), INTELLIGENT, ARTICULATE, FLUENT
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IN ENGLISH AND PRO-WESTERN. HE HAS SWEDISH WIFE (SYLV) AND THREE CHILDREN. ASSEFA IS WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO THIS EMBASSY. ABOVE INFORMATION FYI, UNTIL ASSEFA RECEIVES AGREEMENT FROM GREEK GOVT.
TIENKEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE, BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS06055
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770385-0247
Format: TEL
From: ADDIS ABABA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771045/aaaabmen.tel
Line Count: 60
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ADDIS ABABA 5062
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 869520
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO GREECE
TAGS: PDIP, ET, GR, (ASSEFA LEGESSE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5cf4a52c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
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22 May 2009
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